

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRAGUE 00161 180816Z
ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 /028 W
-----180820Z 075988 /14

R 171535Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1874
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS PRAGUE 0161

STATE FOR S/CL

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, PPDC, PROP, CZ, UR
SUBJECT: CHRISTIAN PEACE CONFERENCE CONGRATULATES PRESIDENT-ELECT

1. MORNING OF JANUARY 17, KAROLY TOTH, GENERAL SECRETARY OF PRAGUE-HEADQUARTERED CHRISTIAN PEACE CONFERENCE, (CPC), DELIVERED LETTER OF CONGRATULATIONS TO PRESIDENT-ELECT CARTER ON OCCASION OF HIS INAUGURATION. LETTER, SIGNED BY TOTH AND CPC PRESIDENT METROPOLITAN NIKODIM OF LENINGRAD AND NOVGOROD, WAS BROUGHT TO PRAGUE BY CZECHOSLOVAK DELEGATES TO WORLD FORUM OF PEACE FORCES MEETING WHICH CONCLUDED IN MOSCOW ON SUNDAY.

2. ORIGINAL LETTER BEING FORWARDED TO DEPARTMENT C/O S/CL.

3. THERE FOLLOWS VERBATIM TEXT.

HIS EXCELLENCY
JAMES E. CARTER
PRESIDENT OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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PRAGUE, 17TH JANUARY 1977

YOUR EXCELLENCY,
DEAR MR. PRESIDENT.

ON THE OCCASION OF YOUR INAUGURATION TO THE HIGH OFFICE AND AWESOME RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PRESIDENCY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

WE ASSURE YOU OF OUR PRAYERS AND BEST WISHES AND THOSE OF OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS GATHERED IN THE CHRISTIAN PEACE CONFERENCE. ON THE STRENGTH OF OUR FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST WE, IN THE CHRISTIAN PEACE CONFERENCE, TRY TO WITNESS HIM AS BEST AS WE CAN IN THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL POLITICAL ARENA. WE ARE OF THE FAITH CONVICTION THAT WE, CHRISTIANS, AND OUR CHURCHES CAN AND MUST WORK FOR GREATER JUSTICE AND PEACE IN OUR WORLD, FOR THE RECONCILIATION WHICH WAS INAUGURATED BY JESUS CHRIST AND WHICH MARKS HIS COMING KINGDOM.

TOGETHER WITH PEACE-LOVING PEOPLE OF MANY FAITHS AND NATIONS WE FOLLOWED THE PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN WITH GREAT INTEREST. IN OUR EXPLOSIVE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION SOME SEEM TIRED OF DETENTE. THEY CALL FOR INCREASED ARMAMENTS AND HARD-LINE MILITARY "SOLUTION" TO POLITICAL PROBLEMS. ALL THE MORE SIGNIFICANT TO US WERE YOUR WORDS ON THE NECESSITY OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN THE DISARMAMENT NEGOTIATIONS (SALT) AND REDUCTION OF MILITARY SPENDING. WE ARE ENCOURAGED BY THE REACTION OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND THE AMERICAN CHURCHES TO YOUR PROPOSALS, DESPITE THE INCREASED NUMBER OF THE COLD WAR PROPHETS. IN THE TWENTY YEARS OF WORKING TOGETHER IN THE CHRISTIAN PEACE CONFERENCE WITH CHRISTIANS FROM EAST AND WEST, FROM NORTH AND SOUTH, WE HAVE AMPLY EXPERIENCED THE IMPORTANCE OF MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING OF THE IMPERATIVE TO FIND PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO INTERNATIONAL CONFLICTS. FOR THIS REASON WE ARE GRATIFIED TO HEAR THE POSITIVE HOPEFULNESS IN YOUR STATEMENTS CONCERNING THE EAST-WEST RELATIONS AND WE WOULD LIKE TO ENCOURAGE YOU TO CONTINUE ON THIS WAY DESPITE THE RESISTANCE AND ROAD-BLOCKS WHICH STILL HAVE TO BE OVERCOME. IT IS ONLY IN THIS ATMOSPHERE OF RECONCILIATION THAT CHRISTIANS OF EAST AND WEST CAN WORK FOR BETTER

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UNDERSTANDING AND INDEED FOR THE SURVIVAL OF HUMANKIND, FOR IT IS OUR COMMON SURVIVAL WHICH IS AT STAKE. THUS IT IS TO US, CHRISTIANS, AN ACT OF FAITH TO DO EVERYTHING WE CAN FOR JUST PEACE IN THE NAME OF JESUS WHO DIED THAT WE MIGHT LIVE IN THE PEACE GOD INTENDS FOR US.

IN WORKING TOWARDS THIS PEACE WE SHALL BE WITH YOU IN OUR PRAYERS AND ACTIONS OF WITNESS. WE PRAY THAT GOD BLESS AND STRENGTHEN YOU AS A PEACEMAKER.

(SIGNED)

(SIGNED)

NIKODIM

K. TOTH

METROPOLITAN OF LENINGRAD

GENERAL SECRETARY

AND NOVGOROD,
PRESIDENT
BYRNE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Sent Date: 17-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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